

CLEAN SET OF CLAIMS

10. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, or the mature protein thereof.

11. A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 10 and a carrier.

12. An isolated polypeptide, having metallocarboxypeptidase-like activity, comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 98% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

13. The polypeptide of claim 12, encoded by a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4; and

(b) a polynucleotide, which hybridizes to the protein coding portion of the DNA molecule of (a) under stringent conditions, wherein said conditions are hybridization to filter-bound DNA in 0.5 M NaHPO₄, 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 1 mM EDTA at 65°C, and washing in 0.1X SSC/0.1% SDS at 68°C.

NE 25. A kit comprising the polypeptide of claim 10.